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11 wherein said hoop-like tubular portions are formed from the corrugated portions  
12 of two or more of said wires or filaments, and

13 wherein said straightened extension portions extend between and connect  
14 consecutive ones of said hoop-like tubular portions.

1 55. (Amended) A generally tubular prosthesis for implantation in a human or  
2 animal duct to ensure a passageway in said duct, said prosthesis having a tubular  
3 surface and a tube axis and being generally axially subdivided into two or more  
4 circumferentially oriented hoop-like tubular portions, said prosthesis comprising:

5 a plurality of discrete structural wires or filaments joined together to form said  
6 prosthesis, said wires or filaments each having one or more corrugated portions and at  
7 least some of said wires or filaments having one or more generally straightened  
8 extension portions,

9 wherein said hoop-like tubular portions are formed from said corrugated  
10 portions of two or more of said wires or filaments,

11 wherein said straightened extension portions extend between and connect  
12 consecutive ones of said hoop-like tubular portions, and

13 wherein said corrugations comprise zig-zags having V-shaped apices connected  
14 by generally straight intermediate portions.

1 56. (Amended) A generally tubular prosthesis for implantation in a human or  
2 animal duct to ensure a passageway in said duct, said prosthesis having a tubular  
3 surface and a tube axis and being generally axially subdivided into two or more  
4 circumferentially oriented hoop-like tubular portions, said prosthesis comprising:

5 a plurality of discrete structural wires or filaments joined together to form said  
6 prosthesis, said wires or filaments each having one or more corrugated portions and at  
7 least some of said wires or filaments having one or more generally straightened  
8 extension portions,

9 wherein said hoop-like tubular portions are formed from said corrugated  
10 portions of two or more of said wires or filaments,

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11 wherein said straightened extension portions extend between and connect  
12 consecutive ones of said hoop-like tubular portions, and

13 wherein at least some of said straightened extension portions are oriented skew  
14 relative to the tubular axis.

1 57. (Amended) A generally tubular prosthesis for implantation in a human or  
2 animal duct to ensure a passageway in said duct, said prosthesis having a tubular  
3 surface and a tube axis and being generally axially subdivided into two or more  
4 circumferentially oriented hoop-like tubular portions, said prosthesis comprising:

5 a plurality of discrete structural wires or filaments joined together to form said  
6 prosthesis, said wires or filaments each having one or more corrugated portions and at  
7 least some of said wires or filaments having one or more generally straightened  
8 extension portions,

9 wherein said tubular portions are arranged generally adjacent to each other,

10 wherein said hoop-like tubular portions are formed from said corrugated  
11 portions of two or more of said wires or filaments, and

12 wherein said straightened extension portions extend between and connect  
13 consecutive ones of said hoop-like tubular portions.

1 59. (Amended) A generally tubular prosthesis for implantation in a human or  
2 animal duct to ensure a passageway in said duct, said prosthesis having a tubular  
3 surface and a tube axis and being generally axially subdivided into two or more  
4 circumferentially oriented hoop-like tubular portions, said prosthesis comprising:

5 a plurality of discrete structural wires or filaments joined together to form said  
6 prosthesis, said wires or filaments each having one or more corrugated portions and at  
7 least some of said wires or filaments having one or more generally straightened  
8 extension portions,

9 wherein said hoop-like tubular portions are formed from said corrugated  
10 portions of two or more of said wires or filaments,

11 wherein said straightened extension portions extend between and connect  
12 consecutive ones of said hoop-like tubular portions, and

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13 wherein consecutive ones of said hoop-like tubular portions are also connected  
14 at a point circumferentially displaced from said extension portion.

1 60. (Amended) A generally tubular prosthesis for implantation in a human or  
2 animal duct to ensure a passageway in said duct, said prosthesis having a tubular  
3 surface and a tube axis and being generally axially subdivided into two or more  
4 circumferentially oriented hoop-like tubular portions, said prosthesis comprising:

5 a plurality of wires or filaments wherein each of said wires or filaments has one  
6 or more corrugated portions and at least one of said wires or filaments has one or more  
7 generally straightened extension portions,

8 wherein said hoop-like tubular portions are formed from said corrugated  
9 portions of two or more of said wires or filaments; and

10 wherein said straightened extension portions extend in a helical path between  
11 and connect consecutive hoop-like tubular portions.